IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION NO. 141 OF 2015

Milind S. Oka.

.. Petitioner.

V/s.

The Union of India and others.

.. Respondents.

Vijay Patil for the petitioner.

G.Hariharan i/b. A.A.Ansari for respondent No.1.

Mrs.M.P.Thakur, AGP for the State.

CORAM : DR.MANJULA CHELLUR, C.J.

AND M.S.SONAK, J.

DATE: 8th December 2016.

<u>P.C.</u>:

The grievance of the petitioner in this petition relates to the Government of India Notification dated 17th June 2014 regarding implementation of guidelines of National Policy on ICT (Information, Communication and Technology) in school education by the schools and colleges in the State of Maharashtra. The concerned department who has to answer the grievances raised in this petition is School Education Department and Higher and Technical Education Department. It is also brought to our notice that the Information Technology Department has to formulate a scheme which is to be

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implemented through Education Department. An Expert Committee seems to have been appointed to study and submit the report of overall evaluation of the system which is already in existence and to suggest improvements, if any, needed for implementation of the scheme. According to the respondent, this committee is expected to submit its report by March 2017 so that they would be able to start implementation of the scheme from 2017-18 in all probability. However, the Government has also raised an uncertainty while saying that their decision or the future course of action will depend upon the report of the committee.

2. We make it clear that there cannot be any negative course of action since the Government is bound to implement the scheme. There may be some modification, if any, to the proposal by the Committee but it cannot be brought in toto. Therefore, the petition is kept pending in order to know the progress of the scheme. Stand over to 31st March 2017.

(M.S.SONAK, J.)

CHIEF JUSTICE